

# Cat Affairs



SUMMER 2003

THE JOURNAL FROM THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW







ACN 001 604 815

Registered Office and Postal Address:

103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office: Ph 9557 7201 Fax: 95578052

Adoption Centre: Ph 95574818

Website: catprotection.org.au

E-mail: info@catprotection.org.au

Opportunity Shop:

87 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042, Ph 9516 2072

## Patron

Professor Charles Birch,  
FAA

## OFFICE BEARERS

### President

Mrs Nita Harvey

### Vice President

Ms Suzanne Jenkins  
Mrs Angelika Elliott

### Honourary Treasurer

Mr Tony Puren

### Councillors

Ms Neryl Cooke  
Mr Keith Edwards  
Mrs Nance Iredale OAM

## STAFF

### Executive Officer

Lynda O'Grady

### Adoption Centre

#### Manager

Tara Dethridge

### Adoption Centre Staff

Georgina Smith  
Jessie Kalff

### Office Coordinator

Cate Kerr

### Customer

#### Service Officer

Sascha Perry

### Welfare Officers

Sandra Moss  
Tania Henson  
Edward Hatt

### Opportunity

#### Shop Co-ordinating Committee

Ms Robin Carter  
Mrs Angelika Elliott  
Mrs Nita Harvey  
Mrs Nance Iredale

### Journal Editors

Ms Kylie Adams  
Ms Meredith Childs  
Ms Lynda O'Grady  
Ms Gabrielle Wheeler  
Ms Alice Young

### Journal Design

Clare Rickell- BMG

## Honorary Life Members

Mrs Chapman,  
Mrs S Cozens,  
Mrs H Dockrill,  
Ms E Easton,  
Miss P Gauley,  
Mrs H Graham,  
Mr W Graham,  
Mrs N Iredale OAM,  
Mrs L Larsen,  
Mr G Luton,  
Mrs S Pikler,  
M J Thatcher,  
Miss J Tomkin,  
Dr P Waters

## Life Governors

Mrs F Best,  
Prof C Birch,  
Mrs L Braby,  
Mrs M Breust,  
Ms A Carolan,  
Mrs S Cozens,  
Dr M Cridland,  
Mr J Cummings,  
Mrs J Dawson,  
Mrs A Elliott,  
Dr JH Hirshman AM,  
Mrs A Galbraith,  
Mrs J Holdup,  
Mrs N Iredale OAM,  
Dr R Lloyd-Williams,  
Mrs L Loveday,  
Mrs V McLeish,  
Mrs J Nelson,  
Mrs S Pikler,  
Ms Carol Smith,  
Ms D Podesta,  
Miss D Silins,  
Miss E Strachan,  
Mr G Tiley,  
Mrs S Watson,  
Mr PJ Weir  
Ms Carol Smith

## Front Cover & Centrefold

Penelope Clay

## Back Cover

Brett Boardman

The Cat Protection Society would like to thank the Volunteers who kindly give their time and skills to help produce this journal

NOTE: The views in this journal are those of individuals and not necessarily those of CPS. Mention of a product or service does not constitute an endorsement by CPS.

# Council Report

By Suzanne Jenkins

Dear Members,

As another year draws to a close it is time to reflect on the year passing and plan for the year coming.

On the year almost behind us, we can be proud of many things. With the help of you, our members, we were able to realise a long-held dream of providing a first-class premises for both our staff and our cats. Many of you came along to the Open Day and all who did agree that the new building is certainly an amazing transformation of an old dilapidated, hap-hazard building into a modern, well-thought-out structure that accommodates well the needs of our volunteers, staff and cats.

Also this year we entered the National Australia Bank Volunteer Awards 2003. Whilst CPS did not win, the exercise of submitting a detailed entry was a valuable one in highlighting to all of us just how valuable our many volunteers are and what an important role in all facets of the organisation they play and without whom we would find ourselves having to pay staff to do many of the jobs undertaken by our generous volunteers.

The CPS AGM was held in October and there were a few changes to the make-up of Council. Nita Harvey was elected to the position of President. Hillary Dockrill, Karen Stiles and Jackie Rares, did not re-elect this year and Council and staff whole-heartedly thank them all for their dedication, hard-work on Council and their obvious commitment to cats over the last few years.

To the year coming, we are again working to a strategic plan and hope to achieve just that little bit extra next year. Also, now that the huge project of renovating the building is behind us we will be looking to another large project on which to focus. One idea being considered is that of a legacy cat facility. It is very early days yet but this is one option currently on the table on which some work will be done in 2004.

Finally, if you or your friends or family are thinking of adopting this year, please give some thought to an adult cat. Sadly, at this kitten season time, adults are often overlooked in favour of a cute kitten but are the smart choice for people who wish to chose the type of cat they want. For example, a quite vs outgoing, or lap/non-lap cat can usually be determined in adults but you do not have the luxury of being able to pick and chose for temperament when choosing a kitten which is a bit of a lottery when it comes to purrsonalities.

On behalf of Council I would like to wish everyone and their cats a very safe and happy holiday season.

KIND REGARDS,

SUZANNE JENKINS

ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL

# Contents

Page 2	Society Details
Page 2	Council Report
Page 3	Contents
Page 3	Letter from the Editor
Page 4	Animal Welfare News
Page 5	Scratching Post
Page 6	Office Tails
Page 7	Ask the Cattery Manager
Page 8	The Exciting Life of ..... <i>Barnabas J. Cat</i>
Page 9	Day in the Life of ..... <i>Sandy Moss - Welfare Officer</i>
Page 10	Moving with Your Cat
Page 11	Moving with Your Cat
Page 12	Centrefold - Nouska and Kirby
Page 13	Centrefold - Nouska and Kirby
Page 14	Cat Tails
Page 15	Cat Tails
Page 16	Cat Tails
Page 17	Cat Tails
Page 18	Maggie
Page 18	Membership Form
Page 19	Maggie
Page 19	Donation Form
Page 20	Volunteer Spotlight - <i>Gillian Cottle</i>
Page 21	Cats In the News
Page 22	Bequest Program
Page 23	Forget Me Not

## Apology

*With the change over in the journal format, Mrs Anne Galbraith was left off the list of Life Governors for two issues running. This mistake has now been corrected but we would like to apologise to Mrs Galbraith for this omission.*

## Letter from the Editor

**D**ue to the pressure of our office renovations and open day we weren't able to put out our April journal this year. We are now back on track but have added some extra pages to our Christmas 2003 Cat Affairs to compensate for this in a small way.

We do hope that you will enjoy reading some of the happy stories of the cats that have been re-homed through our new Adoption Centre. These appear on pages 14 to 17. Many people write to us letting us know how happy they are with their new cat or kitten and we have included as many of these lovely letters as possible.

With Cat Affairs we try to have a mix of interesting and informative stories about cats that we hope will appeal to our members. We generally steer clear of the more disturbing animal welfare stories as there are many other magazines and publications who specialise in this. In this issue, however, we have included an article by Alice Young outlining a very disturbing subject about which many of our members have expressed concern. This is the issue of the fur from domestic cats and dogs being used for clothing and toys being imported into Australia.

The Humane Society International (HSI) has mounted an excellent campaign to help publicise this issue and a petition is available in the Cat Protection Society office in Newtown. If you would like to find out more check out the HSI website ([www.hsi.org.au](http://www.hsi.org.au)) and our article on page 4.

We apologise in advance for the unpleasant pictures that will no doubt be disturbing for our members, but we feel that this is a story that needs to be told.

If you would like to comment on an article or a particular issue relevant to cats please feel free to write to Scratching Post. Or send in your story suggestions or comments.

Thanks to Clare Rickell of Black Moggie Graphics (ph 9569 0462) who designed this journal. Thanks also to Penelope Clay who provided the pictures of Nouska and Kirby for our cover and centrefold. The pictures from this series are also available on our 2003 Christmas cards.

We do hope that you enjoy the journal 🐾

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

# Animal Welfare News

## *Cat fur imports to Australia*

**D**id you know that approximately 2 million companion animals (cats and dogs) are killed each year in the international fur trade, and that the by-products are finding their way to Australia? Both cat and dog fur is currently being sold as hats, gloves, handbags, decorative accessories on coats and even toy stuffed animals.



An investigation by Humane Society International (HSI), an organisation that “seeks to create a humane and sustainable world for all animals, including humans” has found that the practice is centred in China, Thailand, Korea and the Philippines. According to HSI these animals are raised and slaughtered by inhumane means which involve severe panic, trauma, and needless prolonged suffering.

Currently Australian laws do not prohibit these products entering Australia, and inadequate labelling requirements allow consumers to be misled. Cat products are not labelled “domestic cat”, but most often sold as: Wildcat, Goyangi and Katzenfelle to name a few. Dog products are most frequently labelled as: Gae-wolf, Sobaki and Asian Jackal.

Even informed consumers will have difficulty accessing accurate information from stores. As recently as July, a toy cat purchased from a prominent Sydney store tested positive for domestic cat fur. When the store was contacted to discuss the issue, their response was one of denial, despite being unable to provide any verification of product composition. How ironic that a companion animal was slaughtered to make a cute toy replica!

Humane Society International is trying to raise awareness of this cruel trade and is currently lobbying the Australian government to prohibit the importation of cat and dog fur. As a result of their investigations both the US and Italy have introduced bans on product importation, and there is currently a motion under review in the European Union to introduce a ban there too.

The Humane Society International can be contacted on 9973 1728 or [www.his.org.au](http://www.his.org.au) if you would like to help.

We will keep you updated of any further developments. 🐾





# Scratching Post

**B**elow are some of the letters and poems that we have received from members over the past months. We love receiving your letters, poems, pictures and comments so please keep sending them in. We try to print as many as we can space permitting.

Please remember not to send us your favourite cat picture or anything else of value, as we are unfortunately not able to return material that has been sent to us.

*I will come when you call  
If I want to  
I will purr if I feel so inclined  
We will live side by side  
In contentment and peace  
But you will never know  
what's on my mind. 🐾*

MARJORIE ANDRIOTIE

## Renting With Pets

I thought I would write to inform you of another way of enabling you to rent with cats or dogs.

I am originally from Canberra and when I came to Sydney I had a lot of trouble finding a place that would allow me to rent with a pet.

When I met with landlords, I found that they have been reluctant to accept a pet. HOWEVER, I decided to offer \$200 extra in my bond as a pet bond. This is to cover any damage that my pet may cause. Although my pets are well behaved this does not mean that they don't occasionally play up. This amount is incorporated in the initial bond that is sent to the Bond Board.

This has enabled me to rent with pets - I have found that it gives the landlord confidence that you are a responsible pet owner if you are prepared to allocate that bit more in your bond. It tends to put their mind at ease.

Because I have done this I have been able to easily rent with pets since, even at those places that were advertised "No Pets Allowed".

I hope that this assists future pet owners. 🐾

Kindest Regards  
AMANDA FITTON.

As I am sure you are aware, thousands of animals are used every year in teaching programs across Australia, by students studying subjects such as secondary school science, agriculture, biology, psychology, zoology and pharmacology. For most of the animals involved, this process involves at best discomfort and deprivation and at worst suffering and death. And the most frustrating part is that there are alternatives available.

Humane Society International is presently running an alternative loans program designed to replace animals in teaching. You can view our list of resources at [www.hsi.org.au](http://www.hsi.org.au) and follow the humane education link on the left. We work with students and teachers to find appropriate alternatives and offer advice on conscientious objection where needed.

We are keen to reach as many students, teachers and parents as possible to fight for animal rights in their respective schools and universities. 🐾

Many thanks,

JODI RUCKLEY, HELP COORDINATOR  
Humane Society International  
PO Box 439, Avalon NSW 2107  
Tel: (02) 9973 1728

## A Deplorable Trade

**T**hose who saw a recent 7.30 Report (ABC) will be aware that there is a trade in objects made from cat and dog fur.

Since cats and dogs are traditional pets in our society, such a horrendous trade must surely revolt all who learn of it. While it apparently originated in an east Asian country, it seems that it is also being carried on in Belgium.

The Humane Society has already made submissions for it's banning to the Minister for Trade. By alerting members of the community to the trade, it is to be hoped that a ground swell of protest will result. 🐾

ADA DOUGLAS

To contribute to "Scratching Post",  
email us at [info@catprotection.org.au](mailto:info@catprotection.org.au) or  
mail to 103, Enmore Road, Newtown 2042.

# Office Tails

By Lynda O'Grady

## New Adoption Program

**2003** has been a very special year for the Cat Protection Society. Many years of fundraising, planning and hard work have come to fruition in the form of our new welfare office and adoption centre.

Now that we are back and finally settled in we have the pleasure of working in a modern, hygienic and comfortable building. More importantly, this building is a happy and healthy environment for the cats and kittens who find themselves in the unenviable position of needing a new home. No cattery can ever be a substitute for a loving home, but we make every effort to make sure that the cats' stay with us is as comfortable as possible. With play spaces like the mother and kitten balcony, the playroom and the courtyard, each cat gets some time out to stretch their legs and have a play away from the confines of the cage.

We have made many innovations over the past year, not the least of which is the refinement of our Adoption process. We now ask all potential adopters to fill out an Adoption Questionnaire. This

enables us to help them make the right choice of cat or kitten based on their home environment, lifestyle and expectations. For example, those wanting their cat to spend time outdoors should not have a cat with white nose or ears due to the increased risk of skin cancer.

We also ask all potential adopters to read some information that explains the basic responsibilities and costs of owning cat. Many people have not considered that the kitten they take home today may live for 15 to 20 years or the costs involved in veterinary treatment if the cat has an accident or becomes sick.

We believe that choosing a cat or kitten should be based on more than looks and our trained staff can now use their experience and knowledge of the cats to help our clients make the right choice.

Our new cattery is a wonderful place to come and adopt a new cat kitten. Not only do we have professional staff, wonderful cats and kittens and a great environment, but all the cats and kittens re-homed are still only \$120. This includes desexing, microchipping, vaccination, worming and flea treatment.

The pictures here are of some of the first kittens of the season going to their new homes. 🐾



Cattery attendant explaining how to care for a new kitten



Another kitten goes to a wonderful home

## Operation Cat



You may have heard of Operation Cat. This is a program where the Cat Protection Society and local councils join forces to offer inexpensive desexing and microchipping for local residents. This year we have worked with the City of Sydney, Warringah, Blacktown and Canterbury to desex many cats whose owners may not otherwise have been able to afford desexing.

This scheme was started in 2000 and since then we have desexed over 278 cats. The City of Sydney Council, who has been working closely with us on cat issues designed a new logo for the program. 🐾

## Staff

Cate & Sascha our new customer service staff

In September we were very sad to lose Catherine Robertson who has been with the Society for nearly three years in the role of Office Coordinator. Catherine has now gone to work in the music industry.

Cate Kerr who previously worked at the Lost Dogs Home in Melbourne has taken her place. Sascha Perry who has lots of great customer service experience with companies like Dymocks has filled the Customer Service Officer role. So if you call our office needing help with a problem with a stray or abandoned cat or you are looking for a new cat or kitten or inexpensive desexing you will speak to either Sascha or Cate. 🐾



## Barney

In the last issue of Cat Affairs we let our members know that we were looking for a home for a very special member of the Cat Protection family, Barney our office cat. The good news is that Barney has now found the perfect home, with a wonderful man who adores him.

It was very difficult to see him go (and a few tears were shed), but we knew that Barney needed a place of his own away from so many other cats. As he is deaf and white he needed someone who understood his special circumstances and would keep him indoors. His new home has a balcony, which we are told, Barney is already enjoying.

Barney settled into his new home within a few days and is so far doing well. We will keep you up to date on his progress.

The "office cat" position has now been taken over by two boys who just can't find the right owner. Serendipity and Kalvin. Serendipity was dumped outside our garage door over the Easter weekend, but has still not managed to find the right person to take him home. Both boys will have the run of office until their perfect companion comes along.

See page 8 for the Exiting Life of Barnabas J. Cat. 🐾



Serendipity looking for a new home

Grace with her new kitten





# Ask the Cattery Manager

**H**ello, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Tara Dethridge and I am the Adoption Centre Manager here at the Cat Protection Society (CPS).

My job has many facets, number one being to ensure the cats and kittens go to the best possible homes and that during their stay at the cattery they are happy, healthy and get the highest standard of care. I also look after the Volunteer and Foster Caring Programs, train the Adoption Centre staff and liaise closely with the vets used by the Society. In a nutshell I make sure the cattery is running smoothly for the cats, staff and potential adoptees.

This new segment of Cat Affairs is to give you, our members, a chance to ask some questions. Whether it be about cat health or behavioural problems, a cat you have adopted from us or the workings of the Adoption Centre. If you have any questions that I can help with please write in and I will do my best to answer your queries in the next Cat Affairs. In order for this to work I do need you to write in, so don't be shy. You can address your letters to:

**"Ask the Cattery Manager"**

**Attention Tara Dethridge**

**103 Enmore Road, Newtown NSW 2042.**

Below is a question that we are often asked by our clients.

**Q** I am going away on holidays for two weeks at Christmas time, what options do I have for the care of my cat?

**A** The most common option for people going away for short periods of time is to board their cats at their local Vet Clinic or boarding cattery.

I strongly advise that before you make the booking you go and have a look at the facilities to make sure, for your cat and for your own peace of mind, that it meets your expected standard of care. You should find the facilities to be clean, odour free, quiet, and a good distance away from the dog kenneling area. Make sure you feel happy with the size of the cage or run.

The staff should be friendly and open to answer any questions you may have and the cats in the facility should look as relaxed and happy as possible. If this is not the case, look elsewhere.

If you are happy with the facilities and decide to make a booking over Christmas, keep in mind that you will need to book as early as possible (due to this being a very popular holiday season they tend to book out very quickly). You will more than likely be asked to leave a deposit, and you will probably pay significantly more than you might at other, quieter times of year. You will be looking at between \$15 and \$30 per cat, per calendar day.

Your cats vaccinations will need to be up to date. Most places require an F3 Vaccination (Feline enteritis and cat flu), but

some will ask for an F4 (Feline enteritis, cat flu and Chlamydia), you will need to provide the vaccination certificates as proof of vaccination status. Keep in mind that if you cat's vaccinations aren't up to date, that this process can sometimes take a month to complete.

It is difficult for us to make recommendations, but you may want to check out the facilities of some of the following boarding catteries: In the Inner West you could try Petersham Veterinary Hospital (Ph 9560 5255) or Inner West Veterinary Hospital (Ph 9516 1466) both of whom have excellent boarding facilities. For longer stays, Cat City in Alexandria (Ph 9310 3880) is great and close to the Inner City. Hanrob Boarding facility in Heathcote is also excellent, they are about an hour out of Sydney, but are very convenient because they have a pick up and delivery service from many vet clinics all over Sydney. They can be contacted on (Ph 9520 6633). Ask them to send you a copy of their brochure. There are many other excellent

facilities available, but always inspect their accommodation yourself before booking your cat in.

Your other option, which is particularly good for the more timid cats, is to have a home pet sitter. Whether it be a reliable friend or relative, someone from an agency or a nurse from your local Vet Clinic, home sitting is a great way to go.

Pet sitters will vary in the services they offer, some will come and live in your house while you are away and care for the animals, this means very little disruption in your cat's routine. Others will simply pop in once or twice a day, turn lights on and off, collect the post, water the garden and of course change dirty litter trays, feed and spend time with your cat.

Your pet sitter, if they are not known to you, must:

- ☛ be able to provide references
- ☛ be experienced in animal care (preferably with some nursing experience)
- ☛ be contactable at all times
- ☛ have a back up plan if they become ill
- ☛ be able to take your cat to your vet in an emergency and be completely reliable.

You can expect to pay between \$10 and \$30 per day, depending on the level of care you require. I recommend you enquire through your local vet for reliable services in your area, if you live in the Inner West you may want to try Cat City who have been in this business for many years. I also offer a home feeding service myself and can be contacted through the CPS.

I hope this has been helpful, and gives you an idea of the sort of thing you may like to write to me about, I look forward to hearing from you soon. ☛



TARA DETHRIDGE

ADOPTION CENTRE MANAGER

# The Exciting Life of...

## *Barnabas J. Cat*

### **Dear Cat Affairs,**

I thought I'd drop a line to my friends at the Cat Protection Society, who for years gave me a home when I didn't have one to go to, just to let everyone know that I've settled in nicely at my new abode. The human who shares the place with me has turned out okay (as far as humans go, anyway). He keeps the food and drink supply happening and provides comfortable sleeping quarters, so that's the main thing. No complaints.

I've got to admit, though, I was bit wary when the human first brought me to my new home. As soon as he put the cat-cage on the floor and opened its lid I did what any smart cat would do under the circumstances: I leapt out, ran behind a cupboard, and hid.

Whenever I tried to venture out the human would approach me with his arm outstretched. I wasn't sure whether he was welcoming me or whether he wanted to belt my bum, so I'd dash off and hide somewhere else.

(I mean, can you blame me? Some of these humans are pretty damn crazy! You can never be too careful, I say). He tried to coax me out



with morsels of food but no way was I going to relent until saw evidence of good faith on the human's part.

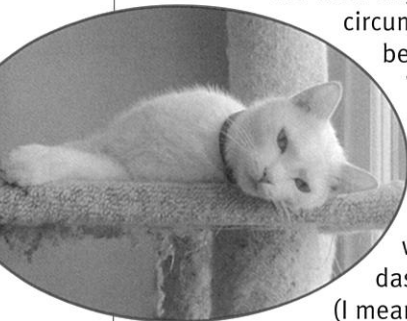
After a few hours, while I was quite comfortably ensconced between a wooden cabinet and a large plate glass window, I suddenly felt a human hand patting me from above. The human had stuck his arm down into the crevice I was hiding in and was stroking my fur. It felt okay. My cat senses indicated that the human meant me no harm, so I decided to bite the bullet and venture out and do a bit of sniffing around. Mind you, I still glanced askance at the human from time to time, just in case he did something unpredictable.

Whilst exploring, and to my absolute delight, I located the very same cat-basket I used to sleep in back at the C.P.S. I got into the basket and giving my claws a good work out on the bedding, just to express my joy at discovering something familiar in this strange new place. At this point, the human came up to me and began patting and stroking me, clearly indicating that he just wanted to make friends. I decided I'd give him the benefit of the doubt and brushed myself against him a few times and ate some of the food he put out for me. We've been good mates ever since.

All the best to everyone, and next time I write I'll send some piccies as well. 🐾

REGARDS,

BARNABAS J. CAT (BARNEY, TO MY FRIENDS).



# Cats Calendar 2004

## Still Available

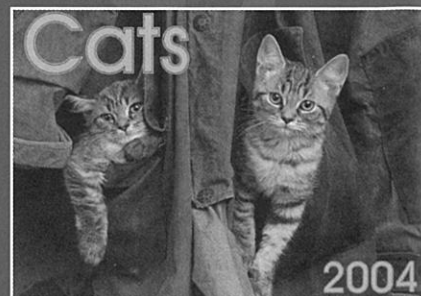
After the success of the 2003 Cats in Australia Calendar we are proud to offer the new 2004 Calendar for our members to purchase.

This cute calendar features many Cat Protection Society Foster Kittens in all their glory. Photographed by CPS Foster Carer Frances Kaukerei.

The Cats Calendar 2004 will make a great present for that special cat lover, or as a treat for yourself. Enjoy our beautiful rescue kittens for all 12 months of the year.

A great bargain  
at only  
**\$9.95**  
each

Postage \$3.00  
each calendar



**All proceeds go towards helping  
cats and kittens in need**



# Day in the Life of...

Written by Alice Young

Sandy Moss

## Welfare Officer

**F**ew organisations have employees as dedicated as those at the Cat Protection Society, and arguably one of CPS's finest is Sandy Moss, Animal Welfare Officer since 1981.

The role of Animal Welfare Officer is not an easy one. Each day the Animal Welfare Officer comes face to face with situations which most people would happily turn away from. They need to be skilled at dealing with the needs of animals, but must also spend much of their time dealing with the complexities of human nature so as to achieve the best outcome for the cats involved. Each situation is different and the Welfare Officer must assess the circumstances and respond accordingly.

On a weekly basis, Sandy and her two colleagues (Tania and Edward) cover the greater Sydney region, responding to calls from the general public that relate specifically to cats. Sandy's time is spent picking up cats unwanted by their owners, trapping undomesticated cats, and collecting strays, all with the aim of re-homing to a responsible new home. Arguably the most important part of their role is implementing the Cat Protection Society's desexing scheme. The Society offers inexpensive desexing, microchipping and vaccination for those on low incomes. The Welfare Officers pick up cats directly from their owners, take them to the vet, and return them safe and sound the next day. Desexing is vital in stopping the oversupply of cats and kittens, many of which end up euthanised at pounds and shelters.

The role of Welfare Officer brings many difficulties but the joy of giving aid to helpless animals does make it worthwhile. Sandy's favourite part of her role is being closely involved with the re-homing of adult cats. The Society prides itself on re-homing many beautiful adult cats that would otherwise have not had a chance. Sandy is a vital part of this process, coordinating the supply of cats to Cat Adoption Centres all over Sydney and to our own Adoption Centre in Newtown. Sandy is always willing to go that extra mile to help save a life. After more than twenty years' service her dedication to helping every cat possible has not declined.

Although Sandy is exposed to all sides of human nature, she believes that most animal cruelty cases occur as a result of thoughtlessness or stupidity rather than deliberate malice.

And on the plus side, Sandy is constantly in contact with other animal workers that demonstrate on a daily basis that the lives of animals are just as worthy of respect as their human counterparts.

So has Sandy always been a cat lover? Apparently not. When she was younger Sandy would have described herself as a "horsey" person, growing up on a farm surrounded by horses and working dogs, with the single tom cat kept around purely to limit the rat population. But as time went on, things changed. Sandy and her sister were both given kittens as girls, but it wasn't until her family moved to Sydney and bought a farm near Windsor that her interest in cats evolved.

Needing to earn money, Sandy saw an advertisement for the role of Animal Welfare Officer at CPS, and as it involved working with animals, she applied. Twenty-two years later she is still there, making a difference on the streets of Sydney. And what's more, through her work at CPS she has become passionate about cats and now shares 6 (collected over the years) with her partner: Reg, Vita, Violet, Max, Gizmo and Cindy.

As Sandy says *"every now and then you pick one up that really tugs at your heart and you feel something special"*, or in Sandy's case, 6 special something's!

Over the years Sandy's role has evolved, and she has gone from being the solo Animal Welfare Officer for CPS (20 years ago), to working in a team of 3 (currently). Sandy admits that at certain stages she has felt discouraged by the enormity of the task she faces on a daily basis. However she says that she has been given a new lease of life by the Cat Adoption Centres which were introduced 5 years ago, as this system has resulted in a large increase in the number of animals being rehomed. That combined with the revamped Cat Protection Society offices, now means that there is almost always a place for unwanted or unloved cats.

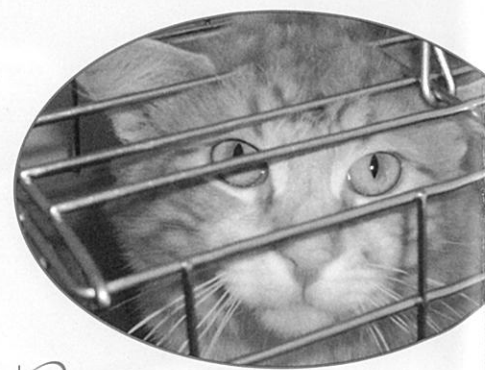
At the root of Sandy's ability to make an impact is her intrinsic belief in the value of the job that she does and the love she has for animals. Admittedly she's "had her moments" with some of the humans that she's encountered, but at the end of the day, it's all about the cats!

So why does Sandy love working at CPS so much? *"Because what I am doing is making a difference"*.

Thank you Sandy for making a difference and for over 20 years of loyal service at Cat Protection Society - we couldn't do it without you. 🐾



# Moving with Your Cat



## A Cat's Eye View

**M**oving is always a difficult time, but spare a thought for your cat who is likely to find this a very disorienting experience.

It is vital to prepare thoroughly with your cat's needs in mind and make sure that your cat's microchip details and tag are correct. You can't expect your cat to settle in overnight but with careful planning you can minimise the pain.

## Moving Your Cat Safely

**Plan Ahead** - Cats lives are based on routine and they don't particularly like this to be altered. Cats notice when things in the house have moved or when the carry cage comes out.

Pack your belongings slowly over a period of time so that there isn't a massive amount of movement on the last few days. This is likely to make your cat very stressed. Keep your cat's bowl, litter and bed in the same place as usual and continue normal play and feeding routines.

Make sure that you have a sturdy pet carry cage for the day of the move. Animals can become very upset when being moved and it's important that they are in a container from which they cannot escape. If your frantic cat escapes in the car, it will not only be difficult to contain him, but also dangerous for the person driving.

The night before the move, get the carry cage out. My own cats know that this cage means trouble and will often run under the bed as soon as they see it. Have it out overnight so the cat gets used to seeing it around. Make sure the lid is open so that you can easily put the cat in easily when the time comes.

Prepare your new home in advance. You will probably need to have one room in the new house, with a door that closes properly, where you can put the cat safely when you first move in. Make sure that this room is ready with bedding, litter, food and toys before the cat arrives. Having a box or a hiding place like a cat cubby often helps the cat settle in.

## On the Day

Always make sure that your cat is not left running around the house when removalists arrive. You can't expect the removalists to keep the front door closed and the cat could easily run away in the fuss.

If you are keeping the cat in the house while the move is taking place, it's best to lock him or her in the bathroom or laundry (with litter, food and water) so that there is no chance of escape. Even better is to board the cat overnight at a boarding cattery where you know the cat will be safe.

**When moving your cat always keep the cage covered with a towel or an old piece of material.**

Never travel with a pet in the hottest part of day, especially if you don't have air conditioning in your car. At Cat Protection we often see cats brought to us in the middle of summer who are suffering terribly from the heat. One person even put the cat in the boot of the car! Needless to say this is never appropriate.

Never leave any animal alone in the car. A car can heat up very quickly once the air conditioning is off and in such a small space this can be deadly.

If you are travelling long distances, you may like to consult your vet about medication that might lessen the stress of travel. Don't ever give your pet human medication to calm them down. Never, ever medicate a cat without consulting your vet.

**Butter on the paws is a myth!**

## Settling In

Before the cat arrives you will have prepared a room where the cat can stay while it adjusts to the new house. Your cat will possibly be very scared at this point and may just want to hide somewhere dark and quiet. If you don't have a cat bed, a cardboard box lined with bedding will give the cat somewhere to hide that will be more assessable to you than if he runs under the bed.

Make sure you have all his favourite toys, bedding etc to help him settle in. His Favourite food and some treats will help ease the stress as well.



# Moving with Your Cat

It is best to let him stay in this room while the rest of house is put in place. With boxes and rubbish going out the door he could easily escape. Let him get used to one room, and then when the house is set up, and you are sure it is secure, let him start to explore the rest of the house.

Don't let him outdoors for at least a few weeks. When he does start going out, you may want to start with short supervised visits to the garden, perhaps even on a lead, until he gets used to the neighbourhood and you are sure he isn't going to run away or get into trouble.

## Identification

It's not always at the front of your mind when there is so much else going on, but it is vital that you get this sorted before the cat leaves the house.

Firstly, you need to organise a collar and tag with the new address and phone number. Organise this before you move and put it on the cat as soon as he is in the new house.

Secondly, you need to contact your local council to get your microchip details updated.

It's important that when you first adopt your cat, or get him microchipped, that you keep all of his paperwork in a safe place. This includes the microchip number, desexing and vaccination certificates. If you have your microchip number you can easily call your local council and they will be able to update the database with your new address and contact details. If you don't have the microchip number you will need to get your cat scanned at the local vet.

It's vital that this information is up to date at all times. Collars and tags can fall off, and if your cat ends up in a shelter, pound or vet a microchip will be your best chance of getting your cat back. Many cats never find their owners, as the owner has moved and the details haven't updated on the database.

When moving into a new area it's important to familiarise yourself with your local vet. You never know when you will need urgent help.

Last but not least give your cat lots of love and attention. It's a difficult time for your cat and he needs to know that he is loved and wanted. 🐾

LYNDA O' GRADY

## Microchipping - What Most People Don't Know

**T**he microchipping system came into practice 1999 and many people are still not familiar with how it works.

The microchip is a small chip the size of a grain of rice that is inserted quickly and safely under the skin between the cat's shoulders.

This chip is not a tracking devise, as some people still believe, but a chip with a scannable number. Almost like at the supermarket. This chip does not contain the cat's details but contains a long sequence of numbers. Only a special scanner can pick up this number and these scanners are available at vets, shelters and pounds.

It is the law that ALL cats purchased after 1999 must be microchipped before they are sold or change hands. When

you purchase a cat you fill in your contact details on a form and these details are then put into a state-wide database, called the Companion Animal Register, against your cat's microchip number.

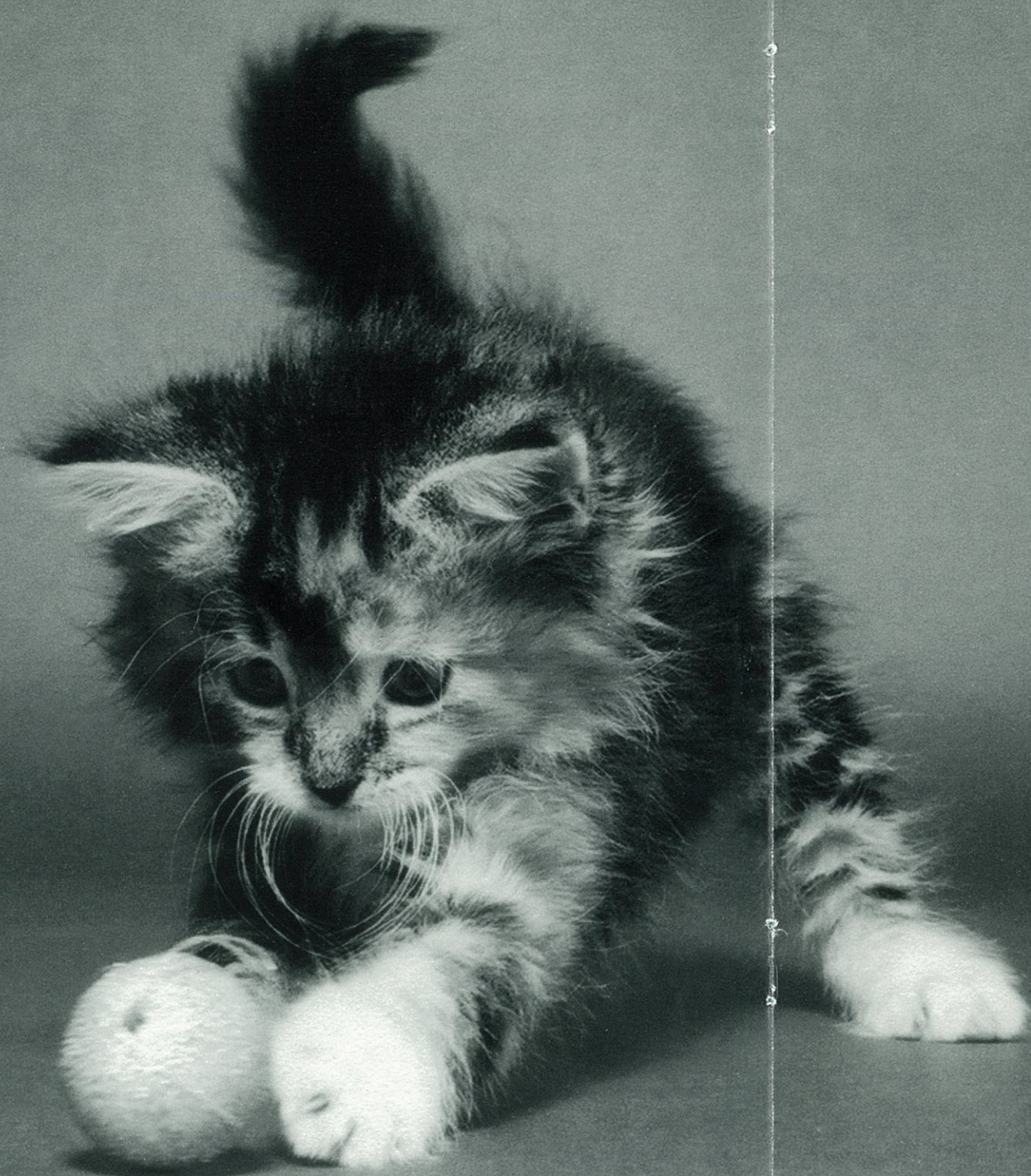
For this reason it is always important that you put aside a copy of your cat's microchip form so that if you need to update your contact details all you need to do is phone your local council.

Microchipping costs from \$30 to \$70. After the cat has been chipped, you need to take the paperwork you are given to your local council and pay a Lifetime Registration Fee. This is \$35 if your cat is desexed and \$100 if the cat is not desexed.

Within a few weeks you should receive a confirmation form in the mail. If you do not receive this contact your council straight away. Mistakes do happen! 🐾









# Cat Tails

**W**e get so many wonderful letters and photos from people who have adopted a cat or kitten through the Cat Protection Society. We like nothing more than to see our temporary charges in their new, happy homes so please keep sending the photos in.

For this Christmas Edition of "Cat Affairs", we wanted to share some good news animal welfare stories. Stories of cats and kittens, who have found wonderful homes where they are loved, appreciated and cared for. This is what the Cat Protection Society does best. Re-homing cats and kittens! Our new Adoption Centre at Newtown is a wonderful success. From January to September we have re-homed over 206 (plus September) adults and many more beautiful kittens. To celebrate so many lives being saved here are some of their stories.

## Sylvie

Sylvie came to me at 7 ½ month of age after having been a homeless mother with her kittens roaming the city streets. For the 1st month in her new home she hid under the bed of a day, only coming out at night to get her food.

Sylvie has settled down to be very affectionate and a real purr baby. She is very smart and playful and follows me everywhere.

Sylvie is a good companion, very healthy and tears through my unit over beds like a small child and plays with shadows.

Thank you for rescuing Sylvie. She has brought me happiness & comfort as I have a disability. I always give her the best of care.

Yours Faithfully  
MRS R McTIERNAN

## Suzie

Remember Miao Miao (Cat Affairs December 2002), now called Suzie?

Almost a year ago Suzie came to Caringbah to live with me after having been abandoned twice.

She has come to be the most loveable companion I could have wished for. If she is allowed out, she comes when called and

whenever I come home, she comes running with her welcoming meow meow.

She loves to sit on her scratching pole with the sunshine coming through the windows.

Regards  
DORLE FISHER-SZAMEITAT

## Samantha

On the 6th of November 02 I picked up Samantha from your care.

I just wanted to let you know of her progress. I can honestly say that she has never done anything wrong and being a totally indoor cat this is wonderful. Samantha is so placid, loving and so perfect all the time. Being a single person myself she has given me so much love and I am certainly not lonely with her in my life.

Samantha is now seven years old.

Thank you all for the work you do and thank you for my Sam.

Sincerely,  
SANDRA GILLIS

## Dougal

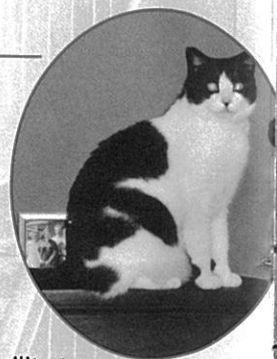
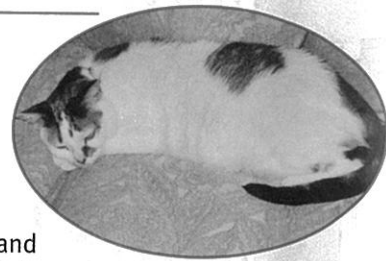
Thank you so much for the time and service in our adoption of Dougal. Right from the first day he's been chatting to us... meowing about his day and following us round; waiting for a moment when someone sits down so he can secure a warm lap!

We call him "Doug" for short.

It was wonderful to spend time at your facility to play with all the cats. So difficult to only pick one!! (I could have taken them all). I only hope all of Doug's friends find homes to. I only hope other people find out how lovely it is to have a cat in the family!!

Doug is happy inside which is great. We're on a fairly busy street and we're not letting him get into the same trouble he was in before with going stray. I'm getting his collar and name & phone number today just in case.

Anyway, thank you once again for helping us adopt



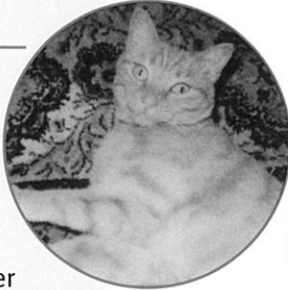
# Cat Tails

Doug. All is well and Doug's certainly making our house a home.

LOVE ALISON, NICK AND DOUGAL

*Mia*

Just a quick note, and a couple of photos, to let you know that Mia has settled in, put on some weight, and generally made herself at home.



She has taken to the furniture with great zeal - she crawls under the couch and bed and propels herself on her back clawing the upholstery.

She has also started to lie across my shoulders, like a yoke, while I work, which is nice and warm.

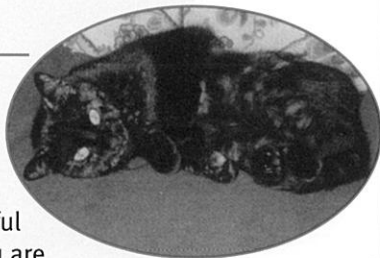
Many thanks for all your help

Kind Regards

JAMES ROBINSON AND MIA

*Minnow*

Enclosing a picture of Minnow. She is a little sweetheart and I am lucky to have her.



You are doing a wonderful job at the CPS, all of you are so dedicated.

She has settled in nicely. She goes outside, still a little timid but getting braver.

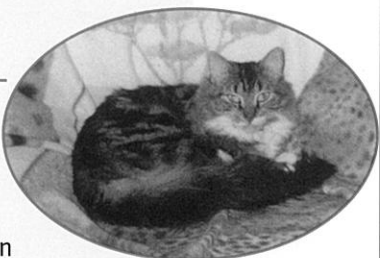
Will keep you updated and come over soon to volunteer.

Best Wishes To You All,  
ANASTATIA FOSTER

PS: Minnow says she loves playing with her ping pong ball and string

*Abbey*

I adopted Abbey a few weeks ago, and have finally got some photos of her in her new home.



We seem to be getting on pretty well. It's lovely to have a cat around the place and she seems to like it here. She

has pretty much free rein of the place, as you can see.

She likes being patted etc.. up to a point but she is not a lap cat - I'm hoping she'll come round.

Thanks for all your help and good work,

ANNA CROSSLEY

*Miss Charlie Spangle*

(ex Squark)

It seems like only yesterday that we came to choose Miss Charlie Spangle, but as it has been over 5 months we thought you might like to see some photos of how she is settling into her new life.

Charlie spends plenty of time roaming the back gardens of our street, and seems to have some monkey blood in her - she is a natural climber of trees!

She is so energetic and loves to play and run around the house, our balcony gets plenty of warm afternoon sun, which you'll see from the photos is then a haven for Charlie to relax on.

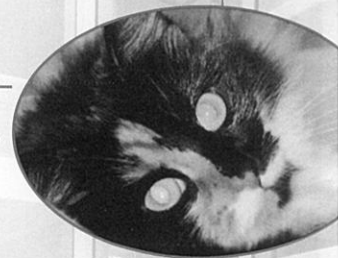
Thank you for your time and advice when we found it so difficult to make a choice between all the lovely cats you care for at the Cat Protection Society.

Regards,

JANE ALIBAND AND STEVE WADDINGTON

*Marmalade*

I just wanted to say thank you, I adopted Marmalade (aka Jessie) nearly four months ago now and I honestly think she is just such a little honey! I wouldn't be the same without her... Keep up the wonderful work!!

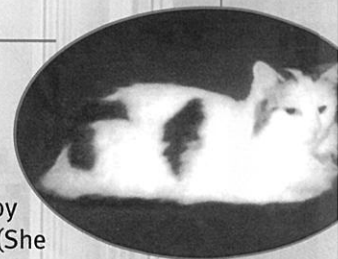


Kind Regards  
SAMALA

*Sheba*

Here is a picture of "Quill" (now known as Sheba). She has settled in very well and loves the indoor life.

We are so happy with her and we believe she, in turn, is reasonably happy with her training of us as her servants (She thinks there is still work to be done!!).



Keep up the great work,  
JACQUI AND GRAHAM CROZIER



# Cat Tails continued...

## Suki

Thought you might like a quick note on how Suki is getting along in her new home.

We got a hint of how mischievous she was on the way home. She managed to rip apart the cat box and came to sit on my lap whilst I was driving! Once home she immediately established herself as Lord of the Manor.

She is the perfect match for young Jeremy. They chase each other about the house and are inseparable. Suki sleeps with him at night.

Suki is now part of the family and much loved. Thanks for letting such a loving cat come home with us. Attached is a picture taken on the weekend.

Kind Regards,  
JAMES

## Sooty

Thanks Jessie for all your help and advise on bringing Sooty home. The dog is not totally happy with the new situation yet.

Sooty is very confident and playful - we all have scratches - but also friendly and sweet. He purrs like anything when we hold him.

Here are photos of Sooty. I think he's getting bigger already; so soon he'll be able to give the dog a swipe across the nose when she gets too close.

Best Wishes,  
CAROLINE VERGE

## Puddle

Here is a picture of SMOKEY alias PUDDLE (our daughter renamed her as she thinks she looks like a puddle of cat lying down.

PUDDLE is fine with our Shitzu dog, I mean she just ignores him and does not seem stressed.

The picture was taken in our closed off backyard.

Thanks for all you help.  
Regards,  
J. RGEN

## Karli and Ziggy

Thought you might like to see me with my new fried Karli. As you can see it's very comfortable here and all I have to do is eat, sleep and play, play, play.

The little desexing scar is fading as my fur grows and has not been a problem.

It took no time at all for me to settle in and Karli has been pretty friendly. We have lots of purring competitions to see who can purr the longest and loudest.

I have a new name - Ziggy - 'cos of my zig zag stripes and my zippy ziggy nature.

A big p-rrr-iii-tt to all my friends. I hope my mate Tom has found a home (yes he did, Ed).

Thank you for looking after me,

ZIGGY

## Noodle & Charlie

The brother and sister we adopted from you at 3 months. They are just lovely (now 1½) and we adore them!

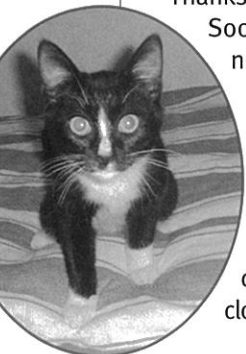
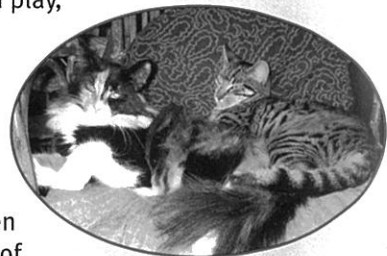
Many thanks,  
KIM, JENS & MAX (4 MONTHS)

## Prince

Just to let you know, Prince is doing really well; he loves it here and is eating like a horse now - nothing from a can though, only fresh stuff. I think someone must have spoiled him, but he is worth it.

What a sweetheart of a cat. He and I are getting on famously. So warm at night now...ahhh.

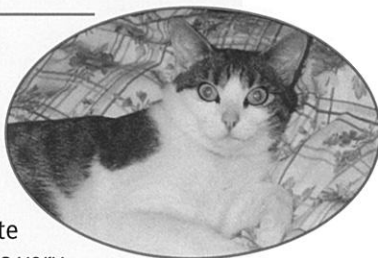
Thanks  
ANDREW



# Cat Tails continued...

## Cleo

Cleo (known to you as May) is now happily settled into our home. She is the cat who had nine kittens and then adopted three extra ones. She has taken quite a while to settle as she is very nervous and worried when men are around (something must have happened to her when she was a stray).



We renamed her Cleo (for Cleopatra) as our other cat is already called Rosie (yes, she is also a CPS cat) and Cleo tends to spend her time lolling around on the floor looking beautiful with markings around her eyes looking like well applied eye liner!

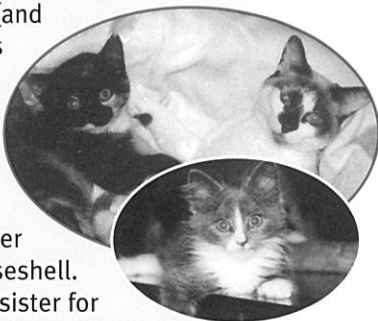
She is becoming increasingly comfortable with us, quite likes a cuddle now, chats to us in some detail and I am working on her so that she eventually feels safe on a lap.

With all good wishes to you all at the CPS.

VIRGINIA HOWARD

## Three Musketeers

These three little cuties came to live with my husband and I (and the many other precious cats we share our house with) earlier this year as young kittens from CPS. Only really intending to take two, we couldn't resist number three, Nicole, the tortoiseshell. She made a lovely little sister for Andre (fluffy grey & white) and Liam who is part Siamese (he's got all the right colours, just not in all the right places!!!).

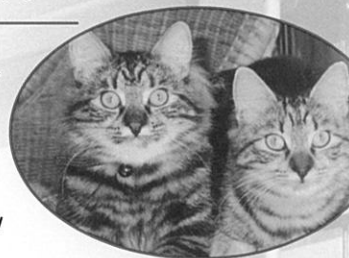


Liam has proven to be the character of the trio, (and the whole household) coercing his slightly younger playmates to embark on rampages up and down the staircase at all hours of the night and leading them out to their outside run where they jump from cat tree to cat tree like little monkeys. The three of them are growing into beautiful cats and it is great to see their own purrrsonalities emerging. We are so lucky to have them and needless to say we love them all dearly.

SUZANNE JENKINS

## Tiger & Possum

Our cats are going well. We called them Tiger & Possum. Tiger is a homebody and possum is adventurous.



We love them very much and they love us. They catch lizards and moths to show how clever they are.

One day possum came in without a collar. Tiger came in 10 mins later with it in her mouth and dropped it at Mums feet.

Thank you for our wonderful cats.

FROM SOPHIE & OLIVIA MILES

**Thanks to everyone who has written and sent photos. Working in animal welfare can often be difficult, but when we see these cats in their wonderful new homes it makes all the difference.**

**Don't forget that all cats re-homed by the Cat Protection Society are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, wormed and flea treated. They come with an Adoption Kit, carry box, individual Cat or Kitten Profile and lots of information.**

**All cats come with a limited health guarantee and we have a post adoption phone service if you have any queries or need any help.**

**Plus the cats are re-homed from our amazing new Adoption Centre.**

**Not bad for \$120! 🐾**

## Bedding Needed

**With the success of our Mother and Kitten rearing room and our community foster care program we find ourselves constantly running out of good, clean bedding for our kittens. Baby's bunny rugs are perfect for our kittens. If you have any bunny rugs in your cupboard that you are not using or could buy some, please drop them in to us where they will be put to good use. 🐾**



# Maggie

## Inner City Cat Who Changed People's Lives for the Better

**T**he Kings Cross Times reported on the 27th of August the story of a cat called Maggie.

It seems that a plaque appeared commemorating the life of Maggie in Onslow Ave, Elizabeth Bay. As this is such a lovely story we asked the Kings Cross Times for permission to reprint it here for our members.

When I visited the street to photograph the plaque, many of the local residents spoke to me about their recollections of Maggie. She obviously touched the lives of many people.

This story was sent to us by Bruce Burne, a local resident and CPS member.

## Who was the Maggie Cat?

The mystery of the history of Maggie the cat and the plaque recently erected to her in Onslow Avenue, Elizabeth Bay, has been solved.

In response to our plea last issue, two readers have kindly replied:

1. Not a feral, not a stray, not a huntress, not a housecat - just a very independent spirit. Loved, fed, and cared for many, she belonged to no-one.

About 1988 she was living in Mc Elhone Reserve opposite Elizabeth Bay House. When a more dominant cat arrived, Maggie 'moved house' further up Onslow Avenue to Bayview Towers. From there independence led her to the garage space and the garbage hide of Trade Winds - her final 'home'.

There, atop the hide, or sitting on the railing, this small gracile cat would greet passers-by. Wearing shiny black coat, with delicate white trim on her toes, she was always a well turned out ambassador for the street - extending



## Membership Form

The Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Newtown, NSW 2042 Ph: 02 9557 1011

I apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 2003.

All persons joining from January 2003 remain financial until June 2004.

**Subscription** ☐ **Life Governor** \$1,000.00 ☐ **Pensioner Membership** \$15.00  
 Please tick ☐ **Life Membership** \$250.00 ☐ **Junior Membership** \$10.00  
☐ **Annual Membership** \$20.00 (State Birthday) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed find a cheque/money order for membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please cross cheques and make payable to THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Pension Number \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS INFORMATION

If you have changed address since becoming a member please complete this section.

Surname (Block letters) \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

# Maggie

herself to everyone for a pat, or two, or three.

She never wanted an inside job. After being taken to the vet for her Eye operation, she was so affronted that for six months or so, she would take off if she saw me on the horizon.

Kerry Hewson of Trade Winds adored her, as did so many other locals who would leave her breakfast on their way to work. With donations from residents of Trade Winds and other locals, Kerry organised the plaque. These folk are too numerous to name, but rest assured Maggie knows who they were and thanks them.

**FAY RYAN, ONSLOW AVENUE**

2. Maggie originally belonged to a young couple living in Onslow Avenue during the early 1980s. There, Maggie had two sets of kittens. After the second set of kittens, which were kept by Maggie's owners, Maggie left home and went initially to live in Arthur McElhone Reserve opposite Elizabeth Bay House in the mid-1980s. The couple later moved from the area. Before they moved they tried to retrieve Maggie but she wouldn't come to them.

*'She made herself at home in the park. She wanted to be a free spirit,'* says local cat lover, Ilse Huber.

Mrs Huber in 1986 had Maggie desexed and Maggie remained

in the Onslow Avenue area for many years. 'She always liked living outside,' Mrs Huber says. 'I used to feed Maggie went to live in the grounds of 12 Onslow Avenue (Darney Hall) and the buildings next door to it. Various people fed her.

'Local resident Fay Ryan was one who was constantly feeding and caring for Maggie. Apparently, Maggie developed cancer of the eye and Fay Ryan had her operated on for that.

'Maggie, in her latter days, hung around Number 12 Onslow Avenue. Maggie, for many years, could be often seen resting on the bus stop bench outside Darnley Hall. Everybody, who went by and knew Maggie, would stop to stroke her and talk to her. Maggie must have been about 18 years old when she died. 'The memorial plaque to Maggie was erected after died earlier this year. A dog startled her and Maggie ran into the path of a car going down Onslow Avenue. She died instantly.

*'She was a sweet cat and everyone's favourite, 'Fay Ryan was wonderful to Maggie and had the plaque erected in her memory,'* Mrs Huber says. 🐾

**BY AN ELIZABETH BAY RESIDENT**

Reprinted with the kind permission of The Kings Cross Times

## Donation Form

To, Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Newtown, NSW 2042 Ph: 02 9557 1011, 9519 7201

I/We would like to make a donation to the Society. Enclosed is a cheque/money order for

**DONATION \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

## FORM OF BEQUEST

To persons who wish to assist our society, the following forms of bequest are suggested:

**Where a specific amount of money or specific asset is to be bequeathed the form would be:**

I (insert full name and address) give and bequeath to The Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore, Enmore, NSW, 2042, the sum of \$..... (or a complete description of the asset). I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be sufficient discharge for the legacy, which is to be applied to the general purposes of the said charity.

Where a bequest involves the residue of an estate, the wording would be:

I, (insert full name and address) give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my estate of whatsoever kind and wheresoever situated to Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is **103 Enmore Road, Newtown, NSW, 2042**. And I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.

**For further information on leaving bequest to the Society please contact the Secretary on (02) 9557 1011.**





# Volunteer Spotlight

Written by Jessie Kalff

## Gillian Cottle

**A** volunteer with an infectious smile, a vibrant personality and enormous compassion, Gill has been a valued and dedicated member of the cat protection team for the past two and a half years.

Gill has always shared her life with a feline friend. Even as a babe Gill would share her cot with tom cat 'Monsieur Boniface'. "He was a member of the family before I was born, and was always there when I was growing up...he was a special boy."

A tireless campaigner for the welfare and the rights of animals, Gill, as well as her weekly work at the CPS Adoption Centre, also supports The Wilderness Society, World Wide Fund for Nature, the snow leopards at Taronga Zoo, and has been a member of Green Peace for the past 15 years. Being an Associate Director in the field of construction, she believes it is her responsibility to have an environmental consciousness and be aware of the impact human society can have on the earth and its inhabitants.

Gill's contribution to animal welfare began in her teenage years in the United Kingdom when she completed her work experience at Cheltenham Animal shelter between years 10 and 11. She enjoyed the experience so much that she continued working there every Sunday through years 11 and 12, while doing extra shifts during the holidays. "I spent the time mainly with the cats but also helped out with the dogs and other animals. I really enjoyed working there and that gave me the grounding to work at The Cat Protection Society."

Gill arrived in Sydney from the United Kingdom in January 2000 to start a new career. Her involvement with The Cat Protection Society started one month later when she adopted Duchess and Amber (two beautiful white ladies), and then tiger (a beautiful ginger and white boy), from our Newtown adoption centre. Gill was so impressed with the adoption service, that she started volunteering in 2001 and has since been assisting adoption centre staff in any way she can. This assistance can take on many forms, from helping out on an open day, socialising kittens and cats through to washing litter trays. "I understand that all tasks are as important as each other as they ultimately contribute to the welfare of each cat at the society."

Since 2001 Gill has also taken three other CPS cats into her care (Fanta, Basil and Toby), all of which have blossomed under the kindness and patience Gill has with those creatures which have been mistreated or neglected.

What Gill loves most about volunteering at the Cat Protection Society is meeting up with cattery staff and the cats in their care. "Some of my closest friendships have been made through the cat protection society, as all involved are dedicated to the welfare of cats and all try to pursue that ideal. It's hard being in a different country with



no family to fall back on, however The Cat Protection Society has become part of my family."

Being brought up by generations of responsible cat lovers, the hardest part of volunteering for Gill is witnessing the consequences of irresponsible cat ownership. "We do not live in a Utopian world, and we do the best job we can in a situation where people are still not de-sexing their cats....It is criminal the fact that so many people do not realise the impact of letting their cat remain un-desexed when there are so many kittens and cats needing homes."

One of Gill's biggest hopes for cats in the future is that everyone will take the option of de-sexing their feline friends. "If this happened we and all other animal welfare agencies wouldn't have to go through the 'torture' of kitten season and the knock on effect of having to make serious decisions over the life of adult cats who have done no wrong."

Other than de-sexing, Gill hopes that all owners of cats demonstrate responsible pet ownership by making sure that if their cat is an indoor/outdoor cat it is cat-proofed overnight or kept in an enclosure.

Being an idealist, Gill also has many plans for her future involvement in the welfare of Australia's cats. One such plan is promoting the use of cat enclosures, where cats have the freedom to explore the outdoors without being a risk to native fauna.

Gill would also like to promote the adoption of adult cats. "They are so lovely, affectionate and gorgeous to have in your home, just see mine!", she states.

Last but certainly not the least by any means, Gill would love to see the day when it is unlawful to harm an animal in this country, "especially those creatures who were introduced into this country by humans. These animals didn't choose to be here, we brought them here. We should use non-invasive methods such as education, trapping and desexing to control their populations."

All the staff and volunteers would love to thank Gill for the dedication to her work at The Cat Protection Society, and for her support of animal rights in Australia. It is wonderful to have such an inspirational person on our team. 🐾

## Volunteers Needed

If you would like to volunteer at the Cat Protection Society we are always looking for volunteers to help in our Adoption Centre or our Op Shop. Please call 9519 7201 during working hours for further details. 🐾

# Cats in the News

## British Cat Saves Lamb From Drowning

A lamb who escaped recently from his pasture was saved from drowning in a swimming pool by an alert cat.

Puss Puss, a black and white cat, discovered the lamb's predicament and frantically meowed, running back and forth between the pool and the garden where her owners were working, to alert them to his plight.

Puss Puss's owners, gardeners Adrian Bunton and Karen Lewis, had taken her along with them to work at the garden of Cotswold District Council chairman Tim Royle in Icomb, Cheltenham.

Jill Royle said, *"She was in a very, very agitated state, meowing and calling and crying and being an utter pest and dashing back and forth between them and the pool."*

*"They found the lamb in the swimming pool."* Royle said. *"They got it out and it was OK."*

When Bunton and Lewis found the lamb he was under the pool cover and his head was entangled in the pool cover straps, which actually were keeping him from drowning.

Bunton jumped into the pool to rescue the lamb while Lewis went to get help.

Puss Puss is *"a real little superstar,"* said Lewis. The actions of the quick-thinking feline are all the more remarkable because she is disabled.

*"As a kitten she had an accident and had to have her tail amputated,"* Lewis explained. *"She hasn't grown properly, has arthritis and can't curl up, jump or climb like other normal cats."*

Mrs. Royle wrote about the incident in the village newsletter and told readers, *"If you see a little black cat with no tail walking in Icomb, it will be gallant Puss Puss, who deserves a medal."*

Neither Royle nor Puss Puss's owners knew how the Jacob lamb had escaped from the field next to the house. 🐾

PETPLANET.CO.UK

## Will leaves cat in Clover

A stray cat has been left a large house in north London and a £100,000 trust fund by an elderly woman he befriended.

Tinker, who is thought to be about eight years old, made friends with Margaret Layne, 89, before she died last year.

Mrs Layne's will, which has just been published, stated that Tinker should

be able to stay in the £350,000 house in Harrow until he dies.

Mrs Layne had no children and her estate is worth £585,912.

The sum of £100,000 was left in a trust fund to Mrs Layne's former neighbours, Ann and Eugene Wheatley, so they could maintain the house and look after Tinker.

There is one catch for Tinker, though.

If he decides to leave home the trust fund will be ended and the estate will pass to the Wheatleys.

BBC NEWS MAY 6TH 2003

## Couple Discover Cat Bricked Into New Home

The owners of a newly-built home moved in to find a cat had been bricked into the walls.

The couple from Oxon, Oxfordshire, called firefighters after they heard meowing coming from the brickwork.

They cut away the breeze blocks to find next door's cat, Sammy - who had been missing for five weeks.

Sammy's owner, Els van der Meer, said: *"I couldn't believe it. We thought she was dead."*

The eight-year-old cat was given a clean bill of health by a vet.

It is thought she must have found some water to drink in order to survive, reports the Daily Mirror UK. 🐾

## Japan Invents 'Cat Chat' Device

Ever wondered what your cat is trying to tell you?

A Japanese company hopes to solve this conundrum with a new toy that seeks to interpret your pet's meows.

Following Takeda Co's successful launch of Bowlingual - which does the same thing for dogs - Meowlingual is due to be rolled out in November.

A palm-sized electronic console is held next to the cat in question, and an interpretation of its cries and purrs is displayed on the screen.

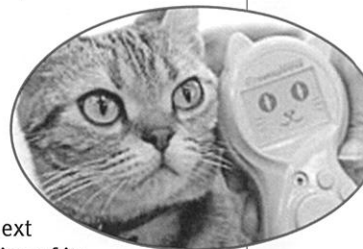
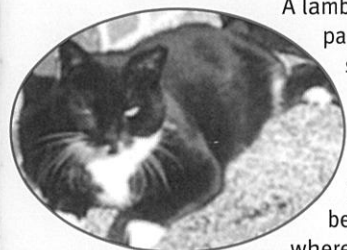
Meowlingual translates the cat's emotion into phrases such as *"I can't stand it,"* according to the Associated Press, although exact wording has not been decided.

The device will be priced at 8,800 yen (about US\$74), less than the 14,800 yen charged for Bowlingual.

Takara has sold about 300,000 of the dog-translation devices in the last six months and plans to launch a English-language version in the US in August.

Bowlingual claims to be able to interpret about 200 phrases or words - grouped in six different emotional categories: fun, frustration, menace, sorrow, demand and self-expression. 🐾

BBC 17TH JULY 2003





# Bequest Bequest

*A Legacy That Will Live  
On Long After You Do*

At the Cat Protection Society the work that we do is funded almost entirely by donations and bequests. We receive a very small grant from the Department of Agriculture but this money covers our costs for only a short period of time.

This means that to continue our work we are reliant on the kindness of animal lovers such as our members.

The work that we do is very expensive and with costs continually rising we need to have a constant flow of donations coming in to fund this important work.

☛ Running our Adoption Centre in Newtown - This wonderful facility offers the absolute best in cat and kitten re-homing. Our centre is modern and hygienic, with trained professional staff that can help you choose a cat or kitten that will fit into your family happily. All of our cats and kittens are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and flea and worm treated. We only charge \$120 each for our cats as we want them to have the best possible start in life. These veterinary procedures however, are not cheap and we subsidise this cost substantially.

☛ We also offer a wonderful education service - All of the clients who purchase a cat or kitten from our Adoption Centre or any member of the general public can access the knowledge of our staff and our organisation. We have many leaflets available to help with issues from Settling in a New Cat to the Facts About Toxoplasmosis. Our phone staff are trained to help with basic queries about many cat issues, and we can offer general advice on matters pertaining to most cat issues.

☛ We promote responsible pet ownership - At the CPS we believe that all cat owners have a responsibility to

their cat and to the community they live in. We actively encourage desexing and microchipping, and offer information and counselling on the long term costs and responsibilities that owning a pet will bring.

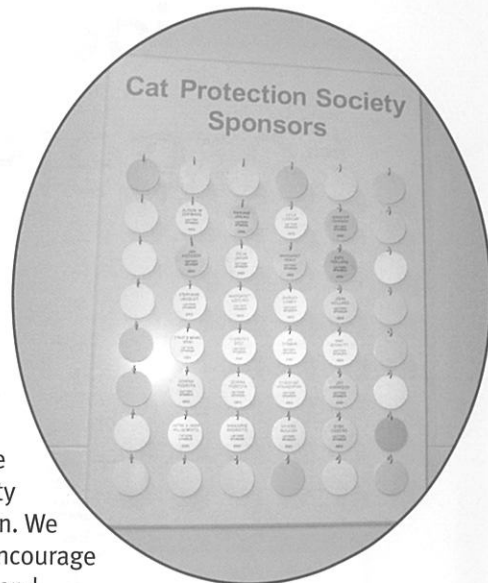
☛ We offer a Community Welfare Service - We have three Welfare Officers who work in the community helping pensioners and those on low incomes to desex and microchip their pets. We also help injured, stray or unwanted cats and kittens. The majority of the cats and kittens that come to us are re-homed through our Adoption Centre

If you would like to see this vital work continued you can give a donation to the Society or perhaps think of leaving us something in your Will. A Form of Bequest is available on page 19 of this journal.

We are always very grateful for any donations that we receive. All donations or bequests over \$5,000 will be remembered with an engraved "Cat Tag" on our specially designed Sponsorship Wall. This wall is located on the stairs leading to our Adoption Centre so all those who enter our building will see it. Each tag is engraved with the name of the sponsor on one side and a personal dedication from the sponsor on the other side.

Your donation or bequest will be helping save little lives well into the future.

For details of our Bequest Program, please call Lynda O'Grady on 9519 7201 during working hours. ☛



## *A Puppy Tale With A Twist*

These little kittens are some of the many fostered by the Society's staff and volunteers. The difference here is that their surrogate Mum is a dog called Saba.

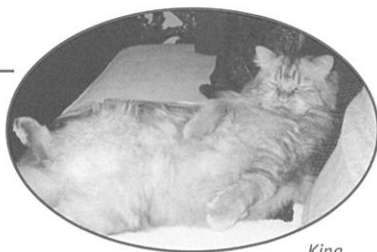
Saba is owned by Society Welfare Officer, Edward Hatt and his family. Edward picked up these little kittens in the course of his duties. They were abandoned in Campsie in a cardboard box. Unfortunately only two were retrieved, but these two have received excellent care and were adopted by loving families. ☛



# Forget-Me-Not

## For King

A ginger hurricane  
 So regal, my little lion  
 So energetic  
 So lazy  
 So agile and graceful  
 So clumsy  
 Sticks, leaves and bugs he would bring  
 Stuck to his woolly belly after another glorious day  
 rolling around in the sun  
 Always announcing his return with his familiar  
 "mrrreow!"  
 "I'm home my family! You may feed me now!"  
 Never happy to sit on the floor  
 Always wanting to be at your level,  
 The better to look you in the eye, as an equal  
 Lolling about on the sofa or the bed  
 Big ginger boots propped up just so  
 Surveying his kingdom  
 And at night, the thump of his weight on the bed  
 One final "huff" at the end of another long day's work  
 And settling his big fat head on my pillow  
 A soothing rumble purr becomes a low snore  
 How to describe the impact he had on me?  
 Suffice it to say that caring for animals will always  
 now be a part of my life



King

And I do so because I believe in what he showed me  
 And because I try to honour him in doing so  
 I was so fortunate to know him, to have him  
 accompany me on part of my journey  
 And shape the remainder  
 Such a funny little man, such a gentle wise little soul  
 If he was only ever going to be around for such a  
 short time  
 I am so pleased we took every opportunity we  
 could to spoil him  
 He deserved no less 🐾

TIM

## Max

I enclose a photo of my cat Max, who  
 passed away recently. He loved sitting on  
 the lounge and peddling on the cushion  
 before settling down. I'm not sure how old  
 he was, I had him for twelve years and  
 before that he lived next door. 🐾



Max

**If you would like to send a submission to "Forget -  
 Me - Not", please forward your picture and copy  
 with a small donation in memory of you cat to  
 103, Enmore Road, Newtown 2042.**

## It's a Dog's Life: Animals In the Public Service

The National Archives in Canberra are holding an  
 exhibition on animals who have worked in the Public  
 Service. The exhibition tells the stories of animals that  
 have worked in the service of government - transport  
 camels, military horses, customs dogs and even  
 microscopic nematodes.

One example is Archie, the pest-controlling cat at the  
 Brighton Archives in the 1950's. Bruce Burne, one of  
 our members and long-term op shop volunteer worked  
 at the Brighton archives and remembers Archie well. In  
 the early days Archie was accompanied by his sister  
 Ivy, but unfortunately she died young and Archie was  
 left to keep the mice under control all on his own.

Australia has been, and still is, shaped by the labour  
 of animals. The exhibition shows a part of our history  
 that is not normally recognised.

You can see the exhibition at the National Archives in  
 Canberra from the 14th of November 2003 to the 4th  
 of March 2004. 🐾

# Stop

**Don't Throw Out This Magazine**

**Please help spread the word on CPS and  
 perhaps even entice some new members by  
 passing the journal on to your dentist, doctor  
 hairdresser, vet or anywhere there is a waiting  
 room with magazines.**



## THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW



cat protection society  
OF NSW



103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office

Ph 9557 7201 Fax: 95578052

Adoption Centre:

Ph 95574818

Website:

[catprotection.org.au](http://catprotection.org.au)

E-mail:

[info@catprotection.org.au](mailto:info@catprotection.org.au)

Opportunity Shop:

Ph 9516 2072